

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write to welcome you to the website for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh. We are blessed to have a vibrant and diverse community here in eastern North Carolina. However, far too many families are unable to enjoy a healthy meal each day and stay in safe, stable housing each night. As the charitable outreach arm of the Diocese of Raleigh, Catholic Charities is dedicated to assisting these families.

Catholic Charities draws their mission from Scripture. In Matthew 25, Jesus says "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me." Dedicated staff work each day to follow this call of Christ by serving our brothers and sisters. Families are assisted through a variety of programs including: Disaster Services, Emergency Assistance, Immigration, and Support of the Family. Each year, approximately 60,000 individuals are impacted through at least one of these programs.

This work would not be possible without the incredible support of donors and volunteers. It is inspiring to see such generosity within our community here in the Diocese. For those who have not yet experienced the joy of volunteering with Catholic Charities, I invite you to contact the Catholic Charities office nearest you to learn more about how you can get involved.

As Catholic Charities continues this great work, I ask that all those who visit this website join me in prayer for families who need this assistance. I also ask for your prayers for our tremendous staff and volunteers who remain committed to our mission.

In Christ.

uis Rafael Zarama, J.C.L.

Bishop of Raleigh